RADIO CLUB ARGENTINO

ANTARTIC SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS EXPEDITION

CQ 13 I.T.U. 73

RADIO CLUB ARGENTINO

ISLAS ORCADAS DEL SUR
ISLA LAURIE 60°45'S - 44°43'W
DESTACAMENTO NAVAL ORCADAS

AZ5ZA

QTH Locator: GD79PF

QSL MANAGER: LU2A P.O. Box 100 - Suc. 28 - 1428 Buenos Aires REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

QSO WITH	CONFIRMING QSO						
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	GMT	MHz	RST	2 WAY
W9 YT	23	Dec. ~~Jan.~~	1983 ~~1984~~	0255	3.5	599	CW ~~SSB~~

The Argentine Radio Club extends its recognition to the Argentine Navy for the invitation to operate from the Argentine Orkney Naval Base, inaugurated on February 22, 1904.

Our appreciation to Kenwood Corporation for providing multimodes TR-9130 and TR-9500 for satellite operation and to Multiradio of Buenos Aires for their generous help.

Thanks to the AMSAT organization worldwide that put Oscar 10 in orbit, enabling 161 QSO's in 23 countries via satellite in only 10 hours of activity.

The enthusiasm and support of AMSAT Argentina members LU1AHC (Art) and LU4ENO (Carlos, Chief AMSAT South America Coordinator), triggered by LU2AH (Ron), who diligently pursued all concerned, permitted these first contacts vía AO10 from Antartica.

Experienced HF operators LU6ETB (Art) and LU9EIE (Carlos) coped with unusual working conditions, knocking of snow and ice from their antennas and reinstalling them when 120 km/h winds took them apart. Last two days of AO10 op were made with the Tx antenna inside their wooden hut! RS reports were extremely good with the indoor Tx operation.

Of the 14.325 all-band QSO's, a memorable one was via AO10 with KL7GNG from Alaska for a terrestrial distance of 16,300 km with elevation 0°.

As predicted, the windows from AZ5 were very short, starting Jan. 4, the longest times were one hour, down to only a ten minute window on the last day (Jan. 12). A 400 mt. high mountain obtruded the view of AZ5 when azimuth was more than 20° and elevation less than 10°. Based on observations from AZ5ZA, LU4ENO immediately began plotting the mountain profile to determine new time-outs of the windows.

Another high of the AO10 experiments was when AZ5ZA, although hearing the bird, but unable to Tx through AO10, did so on 20 mt. and LU4ENO retransmitted via Oscar to several US and European stations, that were thus able to share long QSO's with AZ5. Quite a feat!